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Plan underway to reopen basic education schools in 2021-2022 academic year: Vice-Senior General



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets officers, other ranks and families at the gymnasium of Taunggyi Station yesterday.

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met officers, other ranks and families at the station gymnasium in Taunggyi yesterday.

Also present were Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of the Vice-Senior General, Lt-Gen Aung Zaw Aye from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and wife, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air), Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Ni Lin Aung and wife, officers, other ranks and families

of Taunggyi Station.

At the meeting, the Vice-Senior General explained efforts of the Tatmadaw to pave the way of multiparty democracy starting in 1988, drawing of the Constitution (2008) and approval of it with support of the entire nation, no participation of NLD with the boycott in the multiparty democracy election in 2010 in accord with the Constitution, endeavours of the government led by President U Thein Sein for improvement of political, economic and social affairs for successfully walking on the multiparty democracy, amendment and revocation of some provisions of the election

law for opposition party NLD to join the multiparty system with organizational efforts, and full cooperation of the Tatmadaw with successive governments holding up the national politic concepts.

Moreover, the Vice-Senior General clarified efforts made by the government led by President U Thein Sein amidst political crises, pressures imposed by foreign countries and armed conflicts, attempts of NLD in taking dissatisfaction as advantages in canvassing for the 2015 election with slogan: time to change as incentive for the people, in ruling the country with formation of the government after winning

the election, non-implementation of pledges and promises in the canvassing of NLD, drawing and enactment of the State Counsellor Law despite prohibition as the form of democracy bullying, appointment of the State Counsellor and placing the post of State Counsellor between the president and vice-president in release of State protocol, no completion of political and economic measures, fading of language and religion in its wrong concept in the religious affairs, use of various organizations for the people to misunderstand the Tatmadaw, encroachment on State's independent management with

appointment of foreign advisers, financial loss of the State, no support of the patriotic people to NLD for declining of State's culture, patriotic spirit and economy, staging of no vote campaigns, and anxieties of NLD for winning the 2020 election.

Furthermore, the Vice-Senior General explained the request of the candidates who faced loss in the election to the Tatmadaw for scrutinizing the election, more than 10.4 million errors of voter lists, informing the Union Election Commission, actually responsible for inspecting the voter lists, about the inspection

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Electrification and no shortages of fuel are the primary duty of the ministry: MoEE Union Minister

SERVICE personnel from oil fields should strive for the production of a larger volume of natural gas to generate electricity and crude oil for oil refineries through various ways and means, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Aung Than Oo said at the meeting with staff from Petrochemical Factories (Thanbayagan) yesterday.

He noted that as the supply of electricity for the State and no shortages of fuel are the primary duty of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, departmental heads to encourage staff and personnel to soonest finish the projects.



Union Minister U Aung Than Oo is making the inspection tour around the petrochemical petroleum factory yesterday.

He stressed the need for timely completion of implementing power cable and sub-power station construction project. He pointed out emphasis must be placed on

the distribution of household electric meters to the people as quickly as possible.

During his inspection tour of Htaukshabin/Kani oilfield and Mann oilfield, the union minister inspected the supply of electricity to the oilfields.

He also viewed the production of condensate, petroleum, fuel oil and liquefied petroleum gas at Petrochemical Factories (Thanbayagan), which refines 300,000 gallons of crude oil per day.

He also looked into the storage of crude oil in Htaukshabin and Kani oilfield and pumping units in Mann oilfield.

— MNA

MoSWRR holds meeting on prevention of violence against women law (draft)

THE Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement held the coordination meeting to approve the Prevention of Violence Against Women Law (Draft) yesterday morning in Nay Pyi Taw.

For the adequate protection against all forms of violence, including sexual violence against women and girls, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, in collaboration with the Gender Equality Network, the United Nations Gender Theme Group, drafted the Law on Prevention of Violence Against Women with the technical assistance of international organizations.

The law was drafted with the study on the laws from other countries, including ASEAN countries. A steering committee, an advisory committee and a working committee were formed to complete the law.

Myanmar National Committee for women's Affairs Chair

Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement said the process of drafting the law started in February 2013 and discussions were held with the relevant departments, women associations and members of the Myanmar National Committee for women's Affairs.

In March 2016, it was submitted to the meeting of the Peace, Stability and the Rule of Law Working Committee and the Union Government Office, then submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw through the Union Government Office. The drafted law was sent back for review as per the policy of the new government.

After the necessary amendments were made to allow the law to be enacted, it was submitted to the Working Committee twice and then submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw through the Union Government Office on 23



Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine chairs the coordination meeting to approve the Prevention of Violence Against Women Law (draft) yesterday.

January 2020.

After the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw published the drafted law in state-owned newspapers from 25 to 28 January, the discussions were held at the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee and the Committee on Rights of Women and Children.

The Union Minister said the drafted law was sent with a commitment to the Union Attorney-General's Office on the draft law on preventing violence against women as a law that should be enacted immediately before submitting to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The meeting discussed the suggestions of the UNFPA, Law Advocacy Working Group, U Soe Myaing, and Akhaya Women Myanmar on the draft law.

The meeting was also attended by the officials from the Ministry of Defence Ministry of Home Affairs, the Department of Law, Yangon University, Representatives and officials of local NGOs, members of the Working Committee on the Drafting of the Prevention of Violence Against Women (Draft) Law. — MNA

File opened against ex-chief minister, ex-minister of Kayin State under Anti-Corruption Law

THE Anti-Corruption Commission formed an investigation team according to the complaints to take action against former chief minister of Kayin State Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint and former minister for planning, finance and development of Kayin State U Than Naing under the law for their acts of breaking laws, orders, directives and procedures during their service terms.

According to findings of the investigation team, former chief

minister of Kayin State Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint and former minister for planning, finance and development of Kayin State U Than Naing issued the land lease grant for more than four acres of land to the private regarding the upgrade of strand road in Hpa-an. So, the State-owned land was lost, facing more than K5,380 million in the State fund loss. From 14 May 2018 to 31 January 2021, they collected finance from businesses with the reason for regional

development. Such fund had to be paid into the State financial accounts in line with notification 58/2019. However, they opened separate banking accounts at private banks by taking more than K9,697 million.

Without abiding by the directive included in paragraph 15 of notification 58/2019 for financial procedures, they disbursed K742.5 million to 19 persons, but they did not pay back the loans. So, the State fund was lost. Re-

garding the advanced shopping centre construction project, they accepted K500 million in advance from the tender winning company without signing the work contract. However, they did not pay it into the State fund. Former chief minister Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint spent K1.65 million from the state development fund for giving medical treatments in Hpa-an and Yangon in July 2017. Former minister U Than Naing accepted US\$10,000 from a busi-

nessperson for providing surgical treatment of the spine in Bangkok of Thailand, in March 2018. During the canvassing period in October 2020, he took K5 million as a cost for canvassing from a businessperson. They committed corruption cases by abusing their authority based on their political posts and duties. That is why files of the lawsuit were opened against them under Section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law at Hpa-an Myoma Police Station. —MNA

Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win meets public health officers from regions/states

THE Ministry of Health and Sports held the coordination meeting between the Union Minister and States/Regions public health officers on 7 April in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win said his ministry's employees' primary responsibility is to implement healthcare services to the people continuously. Officers of the

Department of Public Health and Department of medical services are responsible for improving people's health from their respective regions/states.

He added that all health workers must work together to prevent the collapse of the healthcare service system, including the country's health administration, despite the incitements in various ways to disintegrate the

healthcare system.

The Union Minister stressed the need to perform the duties of health profession and provide public health and patient care services following medical ethics, provide continued access to medicines for patients with TB and AIDS, improve the coverage of the COVID-19 vaccine, strengthen COVID-19 prevention and control activities, increase

laboratory tests for suspected COVID-19 patients, and resume regular operations in people's hospitals.

He said the ministry has been urging health workers to return to their workplaces to benefit patients starting from 8 February. He is proud of the health workers who are carrying out their duties despite the difficulties.

He highlighted the need to

ensure any shortage of necessary medicines for patients and the oversupply of drugs in the hospital. Those arrangements are being made to provide the staff's essential benefits, including dinner allowance for night duty staff in people's hospitals.

The Union Minister stressed the need for all health workers to work together to carry out their primary healthcare responsibility.

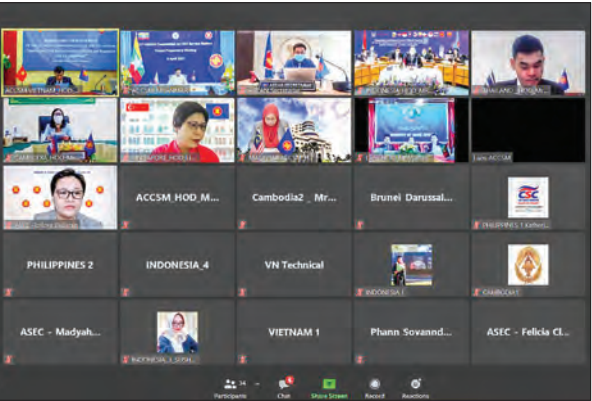
Myanmar Delegation led by U Aung Tin Soe, Director-General of Civil Service Selection and Training Department of Union Civil Service Board attends Preparatory Meeting and Senior Officials Meeting of 21st ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters through Video Conferencing

UNDER the leadership of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Vietnam as an alternative Chair of 2021-2022 for ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters-ACCSM, Preparatory Meeting and Senior Officials Meeting of the 21st ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters have been convened on 8 April 2021 and yesterday morning and afternoon through video conferencing.

On these occasions, Mr Nguyen Duy Thang, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Vietnam, delivered an opening speech and, Myanmar delegation led by U Aung Tin Soe, Director-General of the Civil Service Selection and Training Department of the Union Civil Service Board



The CSTD Director-General participates in the online 21st ASEAN Cooperation Civil Service Matters Preparatory Meeting yesterday.



the undertakings of the ASEAN Resource Centre-ARC, collaborative processes under the ASEAN Network of Public Service Training Institutes (PSTI), Presentation on overcoming and resilient situations against the COVID-19 pandemic among ASEAN countries, Myanmar delegation also shared the status on the cooperation and collaboration with local and international organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic, joining the capacity development programmes for civil service personnel and trainers, conducting online training courses for civil service personnel at the Central Institutes of Civil Service and their future plans, challenges and opportunities encountering within the COVID-19.—MNA

has also attended altogether with other senior officials from ASEAN Member Countries concerned with the ACCSM.

During these meetings, discussion on the Road Map and its processes within their terms of alternative Chairmanship for 21st ASEAN Cooperation on

Civil Service Matters, making proposal for the ASEAN Declaration on Fostering the Civil Service's Adaptability over the New Challenges, ASEAN Secretariat discussion on ACCSM and ACCSM+3 Work Plan (2021-2025), the report of the Study on Civil Service Modernization in

ASEAN, the Draft Framework of ACCSM Strategic Partnerships, the status of the cooperation with dialogue partners in the area of ACCSM, the recommendations and decisions over the meetings related to the ACCSM under the ASEAN meetings, exchanging views on the status of

Pearls and gems emporium continues 8th day in Nay Pyi Taw

THE 8th day of sales of pearl sets and gems in Myanmar Kyats continued yesterday morning at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw following the COVID-19 health guidelines.

In the morning, it was announced that 432 lots of jade out of 450 jade lots from jade lot number 901 to 1,350 were sold for 9,203,945,707 kyats on the seventh day of the emporium.

At the emporium yesterday, from Jade lots number (1,351) to the number (1,800) were auctioned by the open tender system. The gem merchants placed their proposed prices in the tender boxes by 11 am after inspecting the jade lots displayed in the Jade Hall.

The responsible persons will check the bidding prices,



A jade stone under test.

and the jade lots that are sold will be announced at 8 am on 9 April.

It is reported that the jade lots number (1,801) to (2,148) will

be sold by the open tender system, which will be closed at 11 am on 9 April, and the sold jade lots numbers will be announced at 8 am on 10 April.—MNA



Jade lots are displayed outside the Mani Yadana Jade Hall yesterday.

Homemade weapons seized from rioters



Rioters are arrested along with seized riot weapons and materials.

POLICE seized weapons and arms used in riots on 7 April. The security forces arrested U Aung Aung, son of U Sein Maung who lives at No (3/196), between Thitsar and Padonmar streets in Oh Bo of Oo Yin Su Ward in Pyinmana Township, Min Kaung San, son of U Zaw Win, who lives at No (65), Aung Thu Kha street in Kyaik Phane Ward of Mawlamyine, NLD member Thein Zaw Oo from Myaynigone Village in Tit Pin Chaung Village-tract of Kawet Station of Myaungmya Township and Tun Tun Aung from Kungyan Village of Thongwa together with their weapons.

Similarly, the rioters attacked the security forces near Aung Myay Bon San Monastery in ChaungU North Ward of ChaungU Township. The security forces dispersed the protest crowd with riot-control weapons and detained two men and their six homemade bombs.

Moreover, about 300 rioters also blocked the public roads. They attacked the security forces in Taze.

The security forces arrested six men among these

rioters and another four men in Thabeikkyin Township with their firearms.

The unscrupulous persons staged strikes and shouted slangs near No (1) BEHS in Auk Chine of Sue Gone in Kyaukse, where refresher courses for PAT were conducted. So the security forces managed the situation and detained Zarni Bone Naing (aka) Japan Gyi, son of U Khin Maung Myint, Aung Kyaw Kyaw, son of U Khin Maung Oo and Zin Myo Ko Ko, son of U Myo Win.

Similarly, on 8 April, the security forces seized weapons used in riots in the parcels with the names of Ko Kyaw and Ko Soe Thura from Doe Nyi Naung passenger bus heading to Kengtung from Tachilek at Malyan combined checkpoint gate.

Moreover, the police confiscated weapons used in riots from the house of Tayoke Gyi (aka) Min Naing Oo, son of U Hla Myint in Ohn Pin Su Pine Ward in Kyaik Htaw (North) Village in Kawhmu Township and Nay Myo Aung from Pyin Taw Village in Kanbalu Township,

The security forces also

found 18 homemade mines, 37 homemade hand grenades, 8 guns and other materials near Bogyoke street in Taung Phi Lar Ward in Kalay Township during a roadblock clearance operation.

Moreover, they also seized other firearms at the building of Thukha Wadhunha blood donation association in Pin Sauk Monastery compound in Maha Myaing Ward of Taze.

The officials also arrested Aung Kyaw Soe from Aung Chan Tha Ward of Pakkoku Township together with two homemade guns, another three men, including Myint Myat Thiha, son of U Aung Zay Latt on Aye Mya Thaya-Sha Yaw Kha village road in Aye Mya Thaya Ward in Phakant Township, other two men including Yan Naing Tun, son of U Tun who lives in Sut Aung Village and another two men including Kyaw Myint Moe (aka) Ko Moe from Kalar Hmaw Village with their weapons including jingalis.

Those arrested will face effective legal actions, and investigations are underway to capture the rest of the suspects. —MNA

Rioters attack health officers in Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady region

RIOTERS attacked a combined team consisting of members of the security forces and health officers from the Department of Public Health in Zalun Township, Ayeyawady Region, while they were on the way to Thaduchaung village to attend the opening ceremony of Thadu station hospital and to meet the locals for the COVID-19 vaccination at around 8:30 am on 7 April.

About 200 yards before reaching the Byaezingone village, Hinthada Township, about 200 rioters opened fire with handmade guns to the boat of the combined team.

Due to the attack, the boat had to be beached, and the rioters were demanded to disperse the crowd. Finally, the security forces had to disassemble the masses by the riot-control procedures when the rioters accelerated the attack with slingshots, fire bottles and handmade guns. Three men were detained during the riot. Their weapons used in the riot were also seized, and investigations are underway to take effective actions against those who led the riot. — MNA

Model Paing Takun arrested at his home in Yangon



Paing Takun (aka) Sit Ko Paing

PAING Takun (aka) Sit Ko Paing, model and actor, was arrested at his home in Dagon Myothit (North) Township of Yangon Region, according to the Myanmar Police Force's statement.

The combined team comprising security forces conducted measures to arrest those who participated in the demonstration against the government at 5 am on 8 April. Meanwhile, they raided the house of U Tun Tun Moe, father of Paing Takun, 24, located at No (1161), Myintzu Thakka street, 41 Ward of Dagon Myothit (North) Township. They found Paing Takun, who was charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code at the Dagon Myothit (North) Myoma police station on 25 February and arrested him, said the statement.

The arrested model and actor Paing Takun will face actions in accordance with the law. —MNA

Five men arrested with ammunition used in explosive devices, Thaton



5 men are arrested with ammunition for explosive devices being seized. PHOTO: MNA

FIVE men were arrested together with 19 boxes containing 144 iron pellets in each used to make explosive devices, batteries and wires, and related items in Thaton Township, Mon State, on 5 April.

Three of them were found wearing guerrilla pants and

shirts with the BGF badge on them, pretending to be members of the Border Guard Force.

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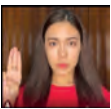














They will be prosecuted under Section 170 of the Penal Code. The detainees were systematically handed over to the Thaton Myoma police station along with seized ammunition, and further investigations are underway.

They were arrested while the security forces were inspecting ammunition and drug trafficking near Kyarpan village, Thaton Township, Mon State. — MNA

Those spreading news to affect State stability charged under Section 505-A

The following celebrities and people have been charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code for intentionally committing incitements to the government employees to join CDM to affect government mechanism and for spreading information showing their support for unlawful CRPH including fake news and other information to unrest riots and threaten the public on the social media.

The list of people charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code

Sr	Account name	Profile	Address	Section of Penal Code	Photo	Sr	Account name	Profile	Address	Section of Penal Code	Photo
1	Yadanar Bo https://www.facebook.com/Yadanarbo	Yadanar Bo 	Thuwunna Township, Yangon Region	505-a		11	Thet Winn Hlaing https://www.facebook.com/p/hoe.thet.31	Thet Winn Hlaing 	Sangyoung Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
2	Hla Myo Thant https://www.facebook.com/hlamyo.thant.710	Hla Myo Thant 	Meiktila Township, Mandalay Region	505-a		12	Han Lin https://www.facebook.com/OfficialHanLin	Han Lin 	Kamayut Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
3	Kyaw Swar Naing https://www.facebook.com/100057286457436	British Ko Ko Maung (a) Kyaw Swar Naing 	Ahlon Township, Yangon Region	505-a		13	San Lin Tun https://www.facebook.com/sanlintun.sanlintun	San Lin Tun 	Minbu Township, Magway Region	505-a	
4	Nandar Myint Thein https://www.facebook.com/muashwekitt	Lin Myint Thein 	Bahan Township, Yangon Region	505-a		14	Waizin Koko Kyaw https://www.facebook.com/waiz.kin.140193	Waizin Koko Kyaw 	Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Region	505-a	
5	Tin Zar https://www.facebook.com/Nwaitzn	Nway Tin Zar Naing 	Insein Township, Yangon Region	505-a		15	Aye Thaung https://www.facebook.com/aye.wutyi.thaung.1	Aye Wut Yi Thaung 	Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
6	Rachel Pang https://www.facebook.com/pangpang1314	Yu Ei San 	Bahan Township, Yangon Region	505-a		16	Yatu Bone Kyaw https://www.facebook.com/shwe.thwe.754365	Nay Zaw Lin 	Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area	505-a	
7	Soe Win Naing https://www.facebook.com/KikoDidi.SoeWinNaing	Soe Win Naing 	Tamway Township, Yangon Region	505-a		17	Sai Aung Naing https://www.facebook.com/sai.aungnaing.56	Sai Aung Naing 	Tamway Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
8	Yan Naung Soe https://www.facebook.com/ynspersonal	Yan Naung Soe 	North Okkala-pa Township, Yangon Region	505-a		18	Aung Myaing Thin https://www.facebook.com/aung.m.thin	Aung Myaing Thin 	Sangyoung Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
9	Mae Min Bon https://www.facebook.com/maeminbon.eppm	Mae Min Bon 	Tamway Township, Yangon Region	505-a		19	Yu Yu Lwin https://www.facebook.com/myoyu1	Yu Yu Lwin 	Wundwin Township, Mandalay Region	505-a	
10	Minn Thein Kyaw https://www.facebook.com/minnthein.kyaw.11	Minn Thein Kyaw 	Insein Township, Yangon Region	505-a		20	Thet Pai Soe https://www.facebook.com/thetphaingsoe51	Thet Pai Soe 	Kalay Town, Sagaing Region	505-a	

Action will be taken against those who will admit the offenders, and list of remaining offenders will be released. —MNA

9 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 8 April, total figure rises to 142,558

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **142,558** after **9 new cases** were reported on 8 April 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, **131,845** have been discharged from hospitals.—MNA

YCDC ensures drinking water supply in Dala Tsp



As Dala is close to the mouth of the Yangon River, the saltwater intrusions in wells occur in the township, so the local people are dependent only on ponds and lakes.

YANGON City Development Committee (YCDC) ensures adequate drinking water supply to Dala Township wards, where local people face a water shortage problem as the lakes start to dry up in summer.

The water distribution project under the YCDC has been distributing water from 26 March 2021. The officials have provided 9,600 gallons of water to the local people in the Yazathingyan ward in Dala Township.

Moreover, they also supply 15,600 gallons of drinking water to Hmawsat and Tapinshwehtee wards and Tadachaung Sanpya village as of 8 April.

About 4,562 households in 24 wards have been connected to water pipelines. The YCDC

built 1,200-gallon concrete water tanks in 34 sites with a household water supply and filled the tanks every two days.

Other households in the townships are relying on 332 lakes and ponds.

As Dala is close to the mouth of the Yangon River, the saltwater intrusions in wells occur in the township, so the local people are dependent only on ponds and lakes.

The lakes usually dry up in summer, and water scarcity often happens.

Those who are lack drinking water supply in Dala Township can dial the mobile phone (09-443155937) of the YCDC's water distribution project. — Naing Lin Kyaw (Dala)/GNLM

Fishery exports plunge to \$432.8 mln as of 26 March

EXPORT earnings from the fisheries sector during the period between 1 October and 26 March in the Financial Year 2020-2021 touched a low of US\$432.8 million, a decrease of \$53 million from the year-ago period, according to statistics released by the Commerce Ministry.

The figures stood at just \$486 million during a year-ago period. Following the drop in exports, fish and prawn prices dropped by half in the domestic market. The lobsters are now priced at K30,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6kg), whereas it earlier fetched above K80,000 per viss. Similarly, the sea bass prices decreased from K10,000 to K6,000 per viss while the crab price dropped from K17,000 to K8,000 per viss, the businesspersons said.

Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) expected to earn more than \$800 million from fishery exports in the FY2019-2020, and it reached a target. Myanmar exports fisheries products, such as fish, prawns, and crabs, to markets in 40 countries, including China, Saudi Arabia, the US, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, and countries in the European Union. Myanmar's fishery exports have slightly declined over the past months, owing to the COVID-19 impacts and the current trade delay amid the political changes. Additionally, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) issued guidelines to ensure food safety during the COVID-19 pandemic

in April 2020.

The permitted companies are advised to carry out food safety plans, follow the WHO and FAO guidelines, formulate the safety management system, and suspend the exports if any suspicious foodborne virus or virus infection risk are found in the products. They can resume the exports once the products meet food safety criteria set by the General Administration of Customs of the People Republic of China (GACC). China is the second-largest buyer of Myanmar's fishery products, accounting for US\$254 million out of the overall fishery export value of \$850 million in the financial year 2019-2020.

The federation expects to reach a fishery export target of US\$1 billion in the current FY 2020-2021. The MFF is making concerted efforts to increase fishery export earnings by developing fish farming lakes that meet international standards and adopting advanced fishing techniques. To ensure food safety, the foreign market requires suppliers to obtain Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and Good Aquaculture Practices (GAQP) certificates.

To meet international market standards, fishery products must be sourced only from hatcheries that are compliant with GAQP. The MFF is working with fish farmers, processors, and the Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation to develop the GAQP system.

Processors can screen fishery products for food safety at ISO-accredited laboratories under the Fisheries Department.

There are 480,000 acres of fish and prawn breeding farms across the country and more than 120 cold-storage facilities in Myanmar. Myanmar exported 340,000 tonnes of fishery products worth \$530 million in the 2013-2014FY, 330,000 tonnes worth \$480 million in the 2014-2015FY, 360,000 tonnes worth \$500 million in the 2015-2016FY, 430,000 tonnes worth \$600 million in the 2016-2017FY, 560,000 tonnes worth \$700 million in the 2017-2018FY, 580,000 tonnes worth over \$730 million in the 2018-2019FY and \$847.5 million, according to the Commerce Ministry. An MFF official said the federation had asked the government to tackle problems faced in the export of farm-raised fish and prawns through G2G pacts and ensure smooth freight movement between countries to bolster exports. Myanmar's economy is more dependent on the agricultural sector to a large extent. Also, the fisheries sector contributes a lot to the national gross domestic product (GDP). Its fishery production, including shrimps and saltwater and freshwater fish, is far better than the regional countries. If the country can boost processing technology, it will contribute to the country's economy and earn more income for those stakeholders in the supply chain, Yangon Region Fisheries Department stated. — KH/KK/GNLM

Domestic gold price reaches record high of over K1.4 mln per tical



In January 2021, the domestic gold fetched the highest price of K1,336,000 per tical on 6 January. It reached the lowest price of K1,316,000 per tical on 28 January.

THE domestic gold price hit a record high of over K1.4 million per tical (0.578 ounces or 0.016 kilograms) with the high record of the global gold price, according to the domestic gold market.

The gold price hit US\$1,683 per ounce in the world market at the end-March. The price sharply jumped to \$ 1,739 per ounce on 8 April, with a significant uptick of over \$ 56 in ten days. With the mounting of the international gold price, the gold price in Myanmar has also skipped to K1,411,000 per tical on 8 April from K1,375,000 per tical on 31 March, with a significant rise of K36,000 per tical in ten days. As a result, the price of gold in the domestic market touched over K1,410,000 per tical registered last February, according to the domestic gold market. Currently, the daily business of five visses or ten visses of gold is being traded in the market.

In January 2021, the domestic gold fetched the highest price of K1,336,000 per tical on 6 January. It reached the lowest price of K1,316,000 per tical on 28 January. It reached the lowest level

of K1,340,000 (2 February) and the highest level of K1,410,000 (3 February). In March, the rate fluctuated between the most elevated of K1,391,000 (25 March) and the lowest of K1,302,000 (4 March), the gold traders said. The local gold price reached the lowest K1,310,500 (2 September) and the highest level of K1,314,000 (1 September). In October, the rate ranged between K1,307,800 (30 October) and K1,316,500 (21 October). The rate fluctuated between the highest of K1,312,000 (16 November) and the lowest of K1,278,000 (28 November). In December, the pure yellow metal priced moved in the range of K1,275,000 (1 December) and K1,333,000 (28 December), according to the gold traders. With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic price hit fresh highs in 2019, reaching K1,000,000 per tical between 17 January and 21 February, crossing K1,100,000 (22 June to 5 August), climbing to over K1,200,000 (7 August-4 September), and then reaching an all-time record high of K1,300,000 on 5 September in 2019. — NN/GNLM

Japan Feb. current account surplus logs 1st fall in 7 months

JAPAN'S current account surplus for February marked the first year-on-year decrease in seven months, mainly due to a rebound in imports from a slump seen a year ago due to the coronavirus outbreak in China and weak exports, government data showed Thursday.

The current account balance, one of the widest gauges of international trade, logged a surplus of 2.92 trillion yen (\$27 billion), down 4.7 percent from the previous year while registering the 80th straight month of black ink, the Finance Ministry said in a preliminary report.

The country's goods trade surplus more than halved to 524.2 billion yen from 1.36 trillion yen in the black the previous year, mainly due to an 11.8 percent rise in imports to 5.55 trillion yen for the first increase in 22 months.

Imports from Asian nations expanded 36.9 percent, with a government official telling reporters that those from China, the first major economy severely impacted by the virus outbreak, have largely recovered. —AFP ■

International support grows for raising taxes to fund recovery

THE IMF and United States on Wednesday gave a boost to the international campaign to raise taxes on wealthy firms that have done well during the pandemic in order to finance recovery efforts.

The renewed support for tax changes comes as G20 finance ministers said they would continue work on a minimum corporate tax aimed at undermining the use of tax havens internationally, with a deal

possible by July.

The plan also has the support of France and Germany but US President Joe Biden's administration on Wednesday took the first step by announcing it intended to raise domestic corporate taxes and clamp down on loopholes to ensure US companies making huge profits, at home or overseas, pay a minimum amount to the government.

"Destructive tax



The IMF favors establishing a global minimum corporate tax, as well as raising taxes on the wealthy to fund pandemic programs. PHOTO: AFP

competition will only end when enough major economies stop undercutting one another and agree to a global minimum tax," US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said.

Yellen this week also said she wants the G20 to reach a global agreement on taxation to prevent firms from evading levies by establishing headquarters in countries with lower rates — a practice prevalent among tech companies. —AFP ■

Russia's central bank raps efforts to control prices

RUSSIAN Central Bank chief Elvira Nabiullina criticised on Wednesday government efforts to cap food prices as authorities seek to rein in soaring inflation on President Vladimir Putin's orders.

Consumer prices have been climbing since

March 2020, driven by a slump in oil prices and a drop in the ruble's value after months of historically low inflation. In December, Putin ordered ministers to introduce emergency measures to cap prices of basic food-stuffs such as sugar and

sunflower oil. Speaking at a forum on Wednesday, Nabiullina said it was important not to "get carried away" by price regulation.

"I believe it's necessary to drop price controls as soon as possible because it distorts price indicators in the econo-

my and discourages the development of production," she said. Speaking at a meeting in March, Putin said there was "nothing wrong" if producers reduced their "excess profits". But some businesspeople in Russia have spoken out against admin-

istrative price controls, saying such measures could deal a painful blow to major retailers with already low profit margins.

High prices are a particularly sensitive topic for the authorities ahead of parliamentary polls this autumn. —AFP ■

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EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT
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1. MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WILL SELL TEAK & HARDWOOD ROUND LOGS AND SAWN TIMBERS BY ONLINE SYSTEM FEBURARY OPEN TENDERS IN US DOLLARS. PARTICULARS OF THE TENDER SALES ARE AS FOLLOWS:
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- (EXPORTMARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT)
- YANGLON & EX-SITE TEAK/HARDWOOD (LOG)
- TEAK LOGS ABOUT (889) TONS
- THIRD QUALITY & UP TEAK CONVERSION
- ABOUT (176) TONS (250)CBM
(WOOD BASED INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT)
- THIRD QUALITY & UP TEAK CONVERSION
- ABOUT (103) TONS (149)CBM
- KANYIN ABOUT (7500) TONS
(B) PLACE
- TAW WIN HALL, GYOGONE, INSEIN TOWNSHIP, YANGON.
2. FOR FURTHER DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE HEAD OFFICE AND ALSO VISIT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WEB-SITE (www.mte.com.mm)
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Boon Rawd Brewery Co., Ltd., a company incorporated and existing under the laws of Thailand, and having its registered office at No. 999, Samsen Road, Thanon Nakornchaisri Sub-district, Dusit District, Bangkok 10300, Thailand, hereby declares that the Company is the Owner and Sole proprietor of the following Trademark:



The above Trademark is used in respect of "Aerated water; aerated mineral water; aerated fruit juices; soda water; alcohol-free beers; beer; cider, non-alcoholic; cocktails, non-alcoholic; drinking water; fruit beverages and fruit juices; mineral water (beverages); non-alcoholic beverages; non-alcoholic preparations for making beverages; soft drinks; syrups for making beverages; malt syrup for beverages" in Class 32.

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Daw Yee Mon Aung, (Advocate)
For Boon Rawd Brewery Co., Ltd.
c/o Baker & McKenzie Limited
Level 18, Unit 18-03, Sule Square,
221 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township,
Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated: 9th April 2021

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V B TRADER VOY. NO. (112S)
Consignees of cargo carried on M.V B TRADER VOY. NO. (112S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-4-2021 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: 2301185
Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority
Agent For:
M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY. NO. (1044W/E)
Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY. NO. (1044W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-4-2021 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT/MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: 2301185
Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority
Agent For:
M/S OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS (S'PORE) PTE LTD

ONE Championship: Moraes retains Flyweight title with win over Johnson



Adriano Moraes celebrates after successfully defending his ONE Championship's Flyweight title against Demetrious Johnson at Singapore Stadium yesterday. **PHOTO: ONE CHAMPIONSHIP**

ADRIANO Moraes (alias) "Mikinho" retained his Flyweight World title after beating Demetrious Johnson (alias) "Mighty Mouse" via knockout at 2:24 minutes of round two in the Flyweight World Championship of ONE Championship TNT event, which was held yesterday at Singapore Indoor Stadium, Singapore.

Both men played energetically from the start with super punches plus low kicks.

The first round was just finished with equal fights as Moraes' kicks, and chokes could

not control all the strikes of Johnson.

But the answer to the game could be seen in the second round following a big mistake of Johnson and that mistake made him falling down onto the floor, and his opponent Moraes managed to seal the victory with vigorous strikes.

"This is a dream come true. I'm really working hard every single day. I don't have the words to describe this moment. We did it," Adriano Moraes said in his post-fight interview with ONE Championship.

"It's not a surprise for me because I've been working with the best guys in the world. I'm not the best. I'm just different. Today, it worked out. I'm so happy", he added.

Next, in the Catch Weight (61.5KG) MMA Fight, Rodtang Jitmuangnon (pseudonym) "The Iron Man" beat Danial Williams (pseudonym) "Mini - T" via a unanimous decision.

In the Lightweight MMA Fight, Luri Lopicus defeats Eddie Alvarez via disqualification at 1:03 minutes of round one. —GNLM ■

Chelsea punish wasteful Porto to put one foot in Champions League semis

A classy goal from Mason Mount on Wednesday helped Chelsea to a 2-0 first-leg win over Porto, whose wasteful finishing could have scuppered their hopes of springing another Champions League upset in the quarter-finals. Mount's slick turn and shot in the first half would have been painful enough for Porto, who were the better side for large spells of this first leg in Seville but repeatedly lacked the precision to take advantage.

Instead, their misery was compounded by Ben Chilwell capitalizing on a mistake at the back to score a late second that gave Chelsea another away goal and leaves them on the brink of the semi-finals. They were away goals only in name given both these teams were playing in the unfamiliar Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan,

where they will meet again next week, just with the home and away roles reversed. Porto were in the home dug-out, wore their home kit, had a large club banner in the empty stand behind one goal and their anthem was the one that played out before kick-off.

And Chelsea played the part too, delivering a classic away performance of soaking up the pressure and hitting their opponents on the counter-attack, their quality in the final third proving decisive. Real Madrid could lie in wait for the victors, after they beat Liverpool 3-1 on Tuesday.

Chelsea's win also goes some way to easing the shock of Saturday's 5-2 loss at home to West Brom in the Premier League, which ended Thomas Tuchel's 14-match unbeaten start as coach. —AFP ■

Japan may prioritise Olympic athletes for vaccine: reports

JAPAN is considering prioritizing its Olympic athletes for coronavirus vaccines, aiming to get them inoculated before the pandemic-postponed Tokyo Games open on July 23, local media said Thursday.

Japan's government denied any such plan was being considered, but said it would be "closely watching discussions" about protecting athletes' health. The reported move sparked criticism online, with one Japanese Twitter user demanding: "Give it to my granny first!" Japan's vaccine rollout is moving slowly, with just one million first doses given so far to medical workers since jabs began in February. Older people will start receiving doses only from next week, and so far Japan has approved only the Pfizer vaccine.

A date has not yet been set for vaccinating the broader population, but the government is now considering giving Japanese



Japan is reportedly considering vaccinating Olympic athletes ahead of the rest of the general population. **PHOTO: AFP**

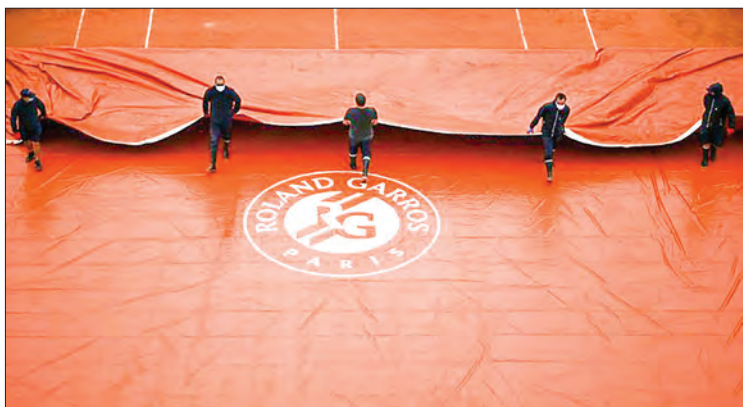
athletes both shots by late June, Kyodo News agency reported, citing unnamed government sources.

Private broadcaster Nippon TV and other media also reported the plan, with some pointing out that the proposed timeline would mean healthy young athletes

would finish their inoculations before some of Japan's elderly.

Top government spokesman Katsunobu Kato said there was "no fact in the claim that the government is studying such a plan and the government has no intention of discussing it at this point." —AFP ■

French Open delayed by a week in hope that more spectators can attend



French Open organisers hope the week's delay allows them to accommodate the maximum number of spectators. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE French Open was on Thursday delayed by a week to May 30-June 13 in the hope that heightened Covid-19 restrictions in France will have eased by then to allow the maximum number of fans to attend the event.

The French tennis federation (FFT) said the decision had been made in the wake of French President Emmanuel Macron's announcement last month that the government wanted some cultural venues to be back up and running from mid-May onwards, "subject to the improvement of the health situation". FFT president Gilles Moretton said the week's delay "will give the health situation more time to improve and should optimise our chances

of welcoming spectators at Roland-Garros".

"For the fans, the players and the atmosphere, the presence of spectators is vital for our tournament, the spring's most important international sporting event," Moretton added. The qualifying rounds of the clay-court Grand Slam event will now be held on May 24-28, followed by the main draw from May 30 to June 13. Wimbledon, the next Grand Slam tournament after the French Open, said in a statement that the decision had no impact on its planned start date of June 28.

The initial Wimbledon warm-up events, however, start on June 7, midway through Roland Garros. —AFP ■

The council temporarily takes responsibilities to ensure genuine democracy and disciplined and firm democracy

THE Tatmadaw is carrying out political, social and economic development by assuming State responsibilities in accord with Sections 417 and 418 of the Constitution (2008) as of 1 February 2021 and forming the State Administration Council in line with Section 419. The council temporarily takes responsibilities to ensure genuine democracy and disciplined and firm democracy. Tatmadaw members need to conscientiously try hard for their works in individuals and must strive for uplifting the prestige of the Tatmadaw, the State and the nationality while improving their individuals and military units.

(Excerpt from the speech to officers, other ranks and their families in Myeik, Kyunsu and Cocogyun stations made by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 21 March 2021)

Press Release

ON 9 March 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has recalled Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland U Kyaw Zwar Minn for his actions of issuing statements of his own will without adhering to the existing orders, instructions and policy guidelines of the State. Meanwhile, U Kyaw Zwar Minn failed to adhere to the State policies and the Headquarters’ instructions. He also abused his authority to exert pressures and coercive measures, drove staff members out of the office premises for not complying with his instructions, threatened to vacate Embassy personnel from their residences, exerted pressure on the staff staying at the Chancery to move out, locked up from outside to prevent them from leaving the office and personally took control of the State-owned Chancery and all the Embassy vehicles. As such, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has dismissed U Kyaw Zwar Minn from the service with effect from 7 April 2021 in accord with the Civil Service Personnel Rules and assigned the Deputy Chief of Mission as Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the Myanmar Embassy in London on the same date.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
Dated, 8 April 2021

State Administration Council Press Release

Re-invitation to Myanmar citizens who arrive in various regions for many reasons

- 1. Some student youths, State service personnel and citizens, evaded to areas of EAOs and foreign countries with worries because of incitement and intimidation of NLD members, the extremists who support that party, CRPH unlawful association, incitement of CDM and persons and organizations at home and abroad not wishing to restore peace and stability of the State since after 1 February 2021 when the Tatmadaw assumed the State responsibility.
- 2. They are further worried about the dictatorship statement and speeches of CRPH unlawful association and some relevant persons. As they face no security guarantee and difficulties in socio-economic life in their areas, they wish to return to their native lands.
- 3. As those who evaded from their native areas are also citizens, the State Administration Council will arrange their returns from evaded areas to various regions of Myanmar.
- 4. Information was released that if those who evaded to various areas except the persons who committed any kinds of crime wish to return to their native lands in Myanmar of their own accord, the citizens abroad are to contact nearby ward, village, township and district administration bodies and relevant embassies, military attaché offices and consulates without facing action taken in accord with the law.

Information Team
State Administration Council

MR to provide train services in Thingyan period

TO assist large numbers of passengers and departmental staff travelling in the Thingyan period Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will conduct the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay-Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon-Mawlamyine-Yangon training services as following dates and time.

Sr	Date	Train	Destination		Departure/arrival	
			From	To	Departure	Arrival
1	11-4-2021	No (8) Down	Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	06:00	18:00
2	12-4-2021	No (7) Up	Yangon	Nay Pyi Taw	08:00	20:00
3	13-4-2021	No (8) Down	Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	06:00	18:00
4	19-4-2021	No (7) Up	Yangon	Nay Pyi Taw	08:00	20:00
5	13-4-2021	RBE	Nay Pyi Taw	Mandalay	06:00	13:00
6	19-4-2021	RBE	Mandalay	Nay Pyi Taw	06:00	13:00
7	11-4-2021	No (89) Up	Yangon	Mawlamyine	06:30	17:00
8	18-4-2021	No (90) Down	Mawlamyine	Yangon	08:00	19:00

The Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon train will stop at Toe Kyaung Kalay, Bago, DaikU, Nyaunglaybin, Kyauktaga, Kanyutkwin, Pyu, Toungoo, Yedashe, Yeni, Ela and Pyinmana railway stations. The Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay train will stop at every station. The Yangon-Mawlamyine-Yangon train will stop at Toe Kyaung Kalay, Bago, Waw, Thein Zayet, Mote Palin, Kyaik Katha, Kyaikto, Mayangon, Taung Soon, Hnin Pale, Thein Seik, Thaton, Yin Nyein and Paung stations. Passengers can buy upper-class tickets for No (8) down train for 13 April and No (7) up train for 19 April three days in advance while ordinary-class tickets one day in advance. The departmental staff can buy tickets with application forms. — MNA



Yangon Railway Station.

Plan underway to reopen basic education schools in 2021-2022 academic year: Vice-Senior General

FROM PAGE-1

of voter lists, and assumption of the State duty by the Tatmadaw in accord with the Constitution due to attempts of NLD to grasp the State powers when the UEC, the Hluttaw and the government did not address the problems.

With regard to the formation of the State Administration Council, the Vice-Senior General said the structures of the region and state, district and township including State Administration Council with the majority of civilian members in efforts of the Tatmadaw to control the State powers during the period allowed by the Constitution, implementation of policies adopted by the previous governments for political, economic, health and education sectors, reconstitution of the new Union Election Commission, more than 4 million voter list difference between the list of previous commission and list of immigration department for 98 townships, taking out of more than 14 million ballot papers, use of over 9 million ballot papers and loss of more than five million ballot papers and plans to inspect remaining townships.



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General gives foodstuffs and cash assistance to Tatmadaw members and families of the Tawnggyi Station yesterday.

The Vice-Senior General highlighted current political situations. He explained the emergence of unlawfully-formed CRPH and its acceptance of cash assistance from foreign countries, giving cash assistance to protesters, armed insurrection, unlawful killing, setting fire to factories, police stations and administrative

buildings, killing people who peacefully live, acts of some media and majority of western countries in broadcasting images of security forces in brutally killing peaceful protesters, and efforts of security forces in controlling the riots under the riot manual (1956) and the crowd control manual (2015).

Regarding the educa-

tion and health sectors, the Vice-Senior General clarified non-enrollment of 3.7 million children, plans underway to reopen basic education schools in 2021-22 academic year with endeavours of the Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, public difficulties in the health sector

despite having 1,177 hospitals in the country, admitting of the military hospital for providing treatments to the people, and reopening of 793 hospitals and plans underway to reopen remaining ones. CDM activity is a country-destroying movement but civil disobedience movement. Likewise, CRPH declared as an unlawful association becomes a committee representing Pyi-Pyay Hluttaw (exiled parliament). The Vice-Senior General also explained the promotion of education and health sector, full electrification, and generating solar power and hydropower.

The Vice-Senior General urged officers, other ranks and families to pay attention to incitements on social media, arresting and killing by rioters with abuse of narcotic drugs, build military unity, take care of health for individuals and military units and participate in individual and team-wise sports events.

After the meeting, the Vice-Senior General, wife and party presented foodstuffs produced by Tatmadaw factories and cash assistance to Tatmadaw members and families of Taunggyi Station. — MNA

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin participates in video conference of ASEAN-UK Open-Ended Troika Dialogue

UNION MINISTER for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin participated in the video conference of the ASEAN-UK Open-Ended Troika Dialogue, which was held at 1:30 pm on 8 April 2021 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting was chaired by Dato Erywan Pehin Yusof, Minister of Foreign Affairs II of Brunei Darussalam and was attended by Foreign Ministers and high representatives from ASEAN Member States and Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom. The Secretary-General of ASEAN also attended the meeting.

At the meeting, the Foreign Ministers exchanged views on cooperation between ASEAN and the UK related to COVID-19 and health-related issues, including on building a resilient and sustainable economic recovery and climate



The MoFA Union Minister joins the videoconference of the ASEAN-UK Open-Ended Troika Dialogue on 8 April 2021. PHOTO: MNA

change.

During the meeting, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin stressed that the opened-ended troika dialogue had enable ASEAN Member States and the UK to exchange views on the important issues such as COVID-19 pandemic, economic recovery and climate change. He further

informed that State Administration Council's roadmap also emphasize on taking effective measures to prevent COVID-19, and economic recovery. In the regional context, he expressed his happiness to see the collective efforts made by ASEAN Member States to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the region and the establish-

ment of the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group on Public Health Emergencies, which he believed has become instrumental for synchronizing actions against COVID-19. He also expressed his happiness to UK for reaching out to ASEAN with a view to working together in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, he

welcomed the contribution made by ASEAN partners and ASEAN Member States to the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund and informed the meeting that Myanmar would be also contributing to the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund.

As for building resilient and sustainable economic recovery, the Union Minister encouraged UK to support the implementation of ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF). On Climate Change, he welcomed UK's commitment to support ASEAN with science-based clean recovery assistance and developing green financial systems and energy efficiency across the region.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also participated in the meeting with the Union Minister.— MNA

Training institutions under Border Affairs Ministry ready to reopen

WHEN universities, degree colleges and training schools are opened, systematic preparations must be made for the readiness of lecture halls, hostels and mess halls in line with guidelines of Covid-19 prevention, said Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung in meeting with faculty members and staff of Union National Races Youth Resources Development Degree College (Yangon) in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township on 7 April.

The union minister inspected construction tasks in



Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung meets faculty members and staff of Union National Races Youth Resources Development Degree College (Yangon) on 7 April.

the compound of the degree college. The principal reported to the union minister on matters related to the Degree College and readiness for reopening of the degree college. The union minister urged the faculty members and staff to nurture students to have

high mental concepts in addition to giving lectures on literature and enhance the capacity of demonstrators, adding that they have to be loyal to the State with the prestige of State service personnel.

The union minister presented uniforms and cash assistance to faculty members.

He then viewed round preparations to reopen the central training school in Dagon Myothit (North) Township and storage and maintenance tasks for heavy machinery at Yangon East District Development Supervisory Office. — MNA

Officials explain current Myanmar situations to diplomats, UN agencies' heads

A brief presentation on the current development of Myanmar to diplomats and heads of UN agencies was held in Yangon yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union Minister for International Cooperation first briefed them on the current progress in Myanmar.

Then, the State Administration Council Chairman's advisory board member Dr Salai Ngun Cung Lian presented matters pertaining to taking State's responsibilities by SAC according to the stipulations of the 2008 Constitution, holding of a free and fair multiparty general election in line with the 2008 Constitution and transferring State power to elected winning party in accord with the democratic norms.

After the meeting, the attendees viewed round the work plans and findings in voting lists of current UEC and the seized riot weapons, including homemade arms displayed at the meeting hall. —MNA



The MoIC Union Minister clarifies the current Myanmar development.



The diplomats and heads of the UN-agencies attend the brief presentation on current progress in Myanmar.



The diplomats and UN-agencies heads are viewing the weapons used in riots.



The seized riot weapons are seen at the event.



The seized riot weapons, including homemade arms are displayed at the event.



The documentary photos are displayed at the event.



The S'porean Ambassador is raising questions.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

- (a) Building of a Union based on democracy and federalism in practising genuine disciplined multiparty democracy in a full fairness manner
- (B) Emphasizing of restoration of eternal peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA)
- (c) Continuous practising of the “principle” of peaceful co-existence among countries by holding up the independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy

2. Economic affairs

- (a) Further development of production based on agriculture and livestock breeding through modern techniques and all-round development of other

sectors of the economy as well

- (b) Stability of market economy and inviting international investments to develop the economy of entire ethnic people
- (c) Encouragement of local businesses to create employment opportunities to be able to produce many products of the State

3. Social affairs

- (a) For ensuring of dynamism of Union spirit which is genuine patriotic spirit
- (b) Following customs and traditions of all ethnic nationalities and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national characters
- (c) Enhancement of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Five future programmes of State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted to carry out tasks that should be done, including inspection of voting lists in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken for the prevention of current infectious COVID-19 with added momentum.
3. Efforts will be made to recover businesses that faced loss caused by COVID-19 in various ways as quickly as possible.
4. Emphasis will be placed on restoring eternal peace in the entire nation in line with agreements from the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) as much as possible.
5. When missions will be accomplished in accord with provisions of the state of emergency, a free and fair multiparty democracy election will be held in accordance with the Constitution (2008), and further tasks will be undertaken to hand over State duty to the winning party meeting the standards of democracy.

Union Minister U Ko Ko donates rice to monasteries, nunneries in Dekkhinathiri, Zabuthiri townships

A rice donation to the monasteries and nunneries was held at Dhamma Vijita Beikman Taw of Maha Vijitayon Pariyatti Monastery in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Five monks, including Chairman of Dekkhinathiri Township Sangha Nayaka

Committee Presiding Sayadaw Baddanta Pandita of Nyaung Kone Monastery, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko, Permanent Secretary, Directors-General, Deputy Permanent Secretaries attended the ceremony. Firstly, the Union Minister

and party took five precepts from Presiding Sayadaw Baddanta Pandita of Nyaung Kone Monastery. Then, the Union Minister presented religious affairs to the Sayadaws, including purification and propagation of the Sasana starting 8 Febru-

ary following the COVID-19 health rules and rice donation to monasteries and nunneries to fulfil the needs, especially in the COVID-19 pandemic. The Union Minister and party donated the offertories to the monks and shared merits when Sayadaw Baddanta Ut-

tara of Shar Taw Monastery finished preaching sermons. The Union Minister and party donated a total of 138 rice bags for the monasteries and nunneries in Dekkhinathiri Township and 244 rice bags for monasteries in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

MoALI holds meeting on food and nutrition expertise on agricultural research

A coordination meeting of Food and Nutrition Expertise on Agricultural Research was held yesterday afternoon at the Department of Agricultural Research, Yezin, Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Tin Htut Oo, Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi, Directors-General from the departments, rectors, and researchers of the Agricultural Research Department. At the meeting, Union Minister U Tin Htut Oo said that the agricultural and livestock research results play an essential role in food security and the comprehensive development of rural areas in various states and regions.



Union Minister U Tin Htut Oo chairs the coordination meeting on food and nutrition expertise on agricultural research yesterday.

He emphasized the need to breed high quality and new varieties according to the different water and soil conditions of each

state and region, do research and develop the most profitable cropping patterns and cultivation methods in each area and focus

on climate change and practical research in meeting the prerequisites of procedures and markets.

Since its establishment in 1954, the Department of Agricultural Research has produced 253 new varieties of crops, including 91 types of paddy. With the Branch of Agricultural Education collaboration, these new varieties and farming methods and technologies have been distributed to farmers. The Deputy Minister urged all to carry out the agricultural development works in line with the Civil Service Codes of Conducts. The meeting also discussed the research works being implemented with the departments’ cooperation. The Union minister and the deputy minister coordinated the discussion as necessary.—MNA

Announcement of Union Election Commission

6 April 2021

1. Regarding the Multiparty General Election held on 8 November 2020, the Union Election Commission has inspected the voter lists and the casting of votes of Yinmabin Township of Sagaing Region and Natmauk Township of Magway Region.
2. Findings in respective townships were as follows:

Findings on voter lists in each township

Sr	Township and numbers of polling stations	Township sub-commission	List from Immigration department	Those involved in voting list without citizenship scrutiny cards	Those involved in voter list more than three times holding one CSC	Those involved in voter list more than two times holding one CS
1	100 polling stations in Yinmabin Township of Sagaing Region	123,606	100,191	4,459	621	12,456
2	281 polling stations in Natmauk Township of Magway Region.	191,685	182,626	9,641	3,034	29,572

3. The Union Election Commission has inspected the withdrawal/receipt/use/remaining of ballot papers used for Pyithu Hluttaw Election of Yinmabin Township of Sagaing Region and Natmauk Township of Magway Region together with the respective township election sub-commission, head of police force, Immigration and Population and administrator according to the Hluttaw Election Law Section 53.
4. According to the inspection, a total of 381 polling stations in these three townships took out 361,988 ballots and used 236,143 ballots. It left 119,616 ballots instead of 125,845 ballots. The difference was 7,510 ballots, and it found 1,281 extra ballots. The extra/shortage ballots and illegal extra-ballots were found at respective poll stations. Findings were as follows:

Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in each township

Sr	Township	Total polling station	Withdrawal	Used	Exact remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
							Missing	Extra
1	Yinmabin	100	138,558	96,479	42,079	39,813	3,547	1,281
2	Natmauk	281	223,430	139,664	83,766	79,803	3,963	
	Total	381	361,988	236,143	125,845	119,616	7,510	1,281

Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Yinmabin Township

5. According to the inspection, a total of 100 polling stations in 42 village-tracts in 4 wards of Yinmabin Township of Sagaing Region took out 138,558 ballots and used 96,479 ballots. It left 39,813 ballots instead of 42,079. The shortage/extra ballots were found at the respective polling stations. Findings were as follows:

Sr	Subject	Withdrawal	Used	Exact remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
						Missing	Extra
1	Ward/village-tract ballots	133,399	95,827	37,572	35,306	3,547	1281
2	Township advance ballots	764	652	112	112		
3	Township remaining ballots	4,395	-	4,395	4,395		
Township Total		138,558	96,479	42,079	39,813	3547	1281

6. A total of 3,547 ballots were missing, and it found 1,281 extra ballots at 100 polling stations in 42 village-tracts in 4 wards of Yinmabin Township.

7. Findings were as follows:

Sr	Ward/Village-tract	Withdrawal	Used	Exact Remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
						Missing	Extra
1	Ka Ward	1,100	835	265	265		
2	Gange Ward	1,100	757	343	393		50
3	Gagyi Ward	300	210	90	40	50	
4	Kanchaung Village-tract	2,835	1,789	1,046	711	335	
5	Kyaukhmaw Village-tract	5,324	3,859	1,465	1,941		476
6	Silaung Village-tract	3,195	2,396	799	654	145	
7	Sonekying Village-tract	3,700	2,983	717	617	100	
8	Sonechaung Village-tract	5,920	4,590	1,330	1,060	270	
9	Segyi Village-tract	3,145	2,403	742	297	445	
10	Zepyupin Village-tract	1,050	769	281	331		50
11	Taungpu Village-tract	4,050	2,913	1,137	1,083	54	
12	Pyanhlae Village-tract	2,500	1,875	625	625		
13	Pyanhlae Theegone Village-tract	2,150	1,498	652	652		
14	Byarmadet Village-tract	3,350	2,364	986	986		
15	Bantbwe Village-tract	8,830	7,075	1,755	1,375	380	
16	Minzu Village-tract	2,150	1,651	499	499		
17	Minkangyi Village-tract	4,500	3,368	1,132	1,032	100	
18	Myothit Village-tract	1,000	781	219	219		
19	Myogyi Village-tract	3,300	2,191	1,109	959	150	

20	Myayeik Village-tract	1,950	1,486	464	464		
21	Maukthayet Village-tract	1450	746	704	654	50	
22	Ywarhtaung Village-tract	1,050	827	223	273		50
23	Ywartha Village-tract	1,850	1,274	576	476	100	
24	Shwepankhaing Village-tract	1,650	1,077	573	523	50	
25	Kha Ward	2,350	1,630	720	870		150
26	Koneywar Village-tract	4,100	2,745	1,355	1,405		50
27	Kyat Village-tract	4,350	3,242	1,108	1,258		150
28	Kapaine Village-tract	5,350	3,868	1,482	1,382	100	
29	Kapaine-Theekone Village-tract	2,500	1,631	869	819	50	
30	Saihlyar Village-tract	2,350	1,589	761	761		
31	Sinswe Village-tract	2,200	1,957	243	393		150
32	Sinte Village-tract	4,400	2,973	1,427	1,127	300	
33	Zetaw Village-tract	1,850	1,168	682	682		
34	Nyaungpingyisu Village-tract	2,550	1,828	722	772		50
35	Nyaungkine Village-tract	2,600	1,800	800	800		
36	Tarwa Village-tract	5,100	3,505	1,595	1,595		
37	Nattaunt Village-tract	2,450	1,678	772	822		50
38	Maukloke Village-tract	2,700	1,700	1,000	1,005		5
39	Yinpaungtine Village-tract	4,350	3,068	1,282	1,182	100	
40	Lethloke Village-tract	2,750	2,002	748	448	300	
41	Lengouk Village-tract	1,750	1,383	367	367		
42	LaBoh Village-tract	2,200	1,566	634	634		
43	Letkabyar Village-tract	2,300	1,520	780	429	351	
44	Wayone Village-tract	1,800	1,154	646	696		50
45	Thaminthet Village-tract	2,450	1,673	777	750	27	
46	Ain Village-tract	3,500	2,430	1,070	980	90	
	Ward/village-tract ballots	133,399	95,827	37,572	35,306	3,547	1,281
	Township Advance ballots	764	652	112	112		
	Township Remaining ballots	4,395		4,395	4,395		
	Township Total	138,558	96,479	42,079	39,813	3,547	1,281

Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Natmauk Township

8. According to the inspection, a total of 281 polling stations in 80 wards/village-tracts of Natmauk Township of Magway Region took out 205,969 ballots and used 138,337 ballots. It left 63,953 ballots instead of 67,632. The shortage/extra ballots were found at the respective polling stations. Findings were as follows:

Sr	Subject	Withdrawal	Used	Exact remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
						Missing	Extra
1	Ward/Village-tract ballots	205,969	138,337	67,632	63,953	3,679	
2	Township advance ballots	1,880	1,327	553	553		
3	Township Remaining ballots	15,581		15,581	15,297	284	
Total		223,430	139,664	83,766	79,803	3,963	

9. A total of 3,679 ballots were missing at 281 polling stations in 80 wards/village-tracts of Natmauk Township. Although the township election sub-commission must have 15,581 remaining ballots, it found only 15,297 ballots in the inspection. Therefore, 284 ballots were missing.

10. Findings were as follows:

Sr	Ward/village-tract	Total Polling station	Withdrawal	Used	Exact Remaining	Remaining on the ground	Differ-ence	
							Missing	Extra
1	Zaykwetthit Ward	2	2,400	1,832	568	558	10	
2	Yanaungmyin Ward	2	1,650	1,319	331	331		
3	Kangyi Ward	2	1,300	910	390	390		
4	Tamapin Ward	2	1,750	1,305	445	397	48	
5	Taungdaunt Village-tract	3	2,550	2,030	520	520		
6	Ywarmon Village-tract	5	3,450	2,653	797	797		
7	Shwepantaw Village-tract	4	2,350	1,340	1,010	910	100	
8	Dantdalunpin Village-tract	4	3,550	2,004	1,546	1,446	100	
9	Phetthamtaung Village-tract	3	2,600	1,486	1,114	1,114		
10	Pa-Gwaycho Village-tract	3	2,500	1,894	606	606		
11	Ainepaukgone Village-tract	2	1,450	905	545	545		
12	Taungbetgyi Village-tract	3	1,600	1,146	454	454		
13	Moenantaw Village-tract	4	1,300	621	679	679		
14	Ainkan Village-tract	5	2,750	1,442	1,308	1,308		
15	Magyicho Village-tract	3	2,150	1,205	945	905	40	
16	Sinthaykan Village-tract	2	1,350	741	609	609		
17	Shangone Village-tract	1	1,000	676	324	324		
18	Gwaygone Village-tract	4	2,300	1,537	763	763		
19	Tharhmyar Village-tract	6	4,200	2,567	1,633	1,433	200	
20	Nyaungkyapwint Village-tract	3	2,150	1,643	507	507		
21	Lingatoe Village-tract	2	1,750	1,119	631	631		
22	Yayhwet Village-tract	5	1,950	1,251	699	699		
23	Tegyi Village-tract	2	1,050	830	220	220		
24	Wayonegone Village-tract	2	1,150	714	436	436		
25	Chaungnet Village-tract	5	2,150	1,436	714	672	42	
26	Wetchoke Village-tract	2	1,800	1,223	577	576	1	
27	Phankharsan Village-tract	2	1,750	1,195	555	555		
28	Kyaukpon Village-tract	3	1,600	1,153	447	447		
29	Layain Village-tract	5	2,450	1,588	862	862		
30	Zaytha Village-tract	2	1,250	976	274	274		
31	Ainezauk Village-tract	4	3,050	1,858	1,192	1,152	40	
32	Twingyi Village-tract	4	3,700	2,260	1,440	1,440		
33	Mezalipin Village-tract	3	2,400	1,631	769	769		
34	Thamonepin Village-tract	5	2,300	1,894	406	406		
35	Sonemagyipin Village-tract	3	2,400	1,619	781	781		
36	Htonepaukchyine Village-tract	5	3,250	2,337	913	912	1	
37	Tetwon Village-tract	3	2,900	1,895	1,005	854	151	
38	Tamalanpin Village-tract	4	3,200	2,054	1,146	1,146		
39	Takhonetine Village-tract	2	2,100	1,661	439	389	50	
40	Pitaukngoke Village-tract	2	1,600	1,206	394	351	43	
41	Sitha Village-tract	5	4,550	3,015	1,535	1,189	346	
42	Ainegone Village-tract	3	2,250	1,397	853	853		

43	Sakhanma Village-tract	5	2,550	1,574	976	976		
44	Aleywa Village-tract	5	2,550	1,739	811	811		
45	Bangone Village-tract	3	1,850	1,258	592	591	1	
46	Aungsan Village-tract	3	2,650	1,834	816	815	1	
47	Myoma Kwetthit Ward	2	1,500	1,137	363	363		
48	Myoma Ward	2	1,800	1,351	449	400	49	
49	Phonetawpyae Village-tract	4	3,550	2,031	1,519	1,519		
50	Na-Kyarhtoo Village-tract	2	2,200	1,478	722	722		
51	Na-Letkhokepin Village-tract	4	3,100	2,330	770	720	50	
52	Gwaypin Village-tract	3	2,500	1,779	721	671	50	
53	Kapaunggonegyi Village-tract	2	1,800	1,309	491	484	7	
54	Thamonegonegyi Village-tract	6	6,300	4,365	1,935	1,933	2	
55	Lebu Village-tract	8	6,450	4,448	2,002	1,974	28	
56	Kalarshin Village-tract	2	2,150	1,603	547	547		
57	Kwingyi Village-tract	5	2,750	1,779	971	971		
58	Na-Gwaycho Village-tract	4	2,900	1,892	1,008	1,008		
59	Kantha Village-tract	2	1,800	1,197	603	603		
60	Gwaytaukgone Village-tract	4	3,150	2,342	808	808		
61	Kyauktan Village-tract	6	5,050	3,511	1,539	1,539		
62	Ywartaw Village-tract	1	1,300	994	306	306		
63	Uyin Village-tract	2	2,100	1,403	697	597	100	
64	Silee Village-tract	6	3,700	2,539	1,161	1,135	26	
65	Pannyo Village-tract	4	2,500	1,679	821	671	150	
66	Hlyawchaunggyi Village-tract	5	3,550	2,457	1,093	1,093		
67	Thithlakyine Village-tract	4	2,850	1,901	949	949		
68	Paypingone Village-tract	3	2,900	1,935	965	965		
69	Yayngan Village-tract	4	3,300	2,290	1,010	1,010		
70	Na-Buekwee Village-tract	3	1,500	1,071	429	429		
71	Myintegyi Village-tract	7	5,100	3,827	1,273	1,273		
72	Kyaunggone Village-tract	3	2,600	1,824	776	776		
73	Kyauktagar Village-tract	4	1,600	940	660	610	50	
74	Pa-Letkhokepin Village-tract	3	2,050	1,275	775	775		
75	Kyunchaung Village-tract	4	2,200	1,484	716	716		
76	Sonegonegyi Village-tract	3	3,350	2,123	1,227	1,227		
77	Thayetchin Village-tract	4	4,000	2,047	1,953	605	1348	
78	Wapan Village-tract	5	3,950	2,575	1,375	1,275	100	
79	Htanpingonegyi Village-tract	3	1,750	1,092	658	282	376	
80	Segyi Village-tract	5	4,119	2,356	1,763	1,594	169	
	Ward/village-tract total	281	205,969	138,337	67,632	63,953	3,679	
	Township Advance ballots		1,880	1,327	553	553		
	Township Remaining ballots		15,581		15,581	15,297	284	
	Township Total		223,430	139,664	83,766	79,803	3,963	

Union Election Commission

Request to Public

1. Democracy practices have granted the public freedom of speech, practices and living. Such freedoms should not harm others. Diverse views of others should be understood, but should not be disturbed or harassed. However, with the reason for human rights, some persons are now under pressured, harassed and threatened in breaching the laws. Undisciplined acts could lead to tarnish the image of democracy.
2. For preventing destructive actions against stability of the state, safety of the public and the rule of law, it is also required to proper actions in line with the law.
3. All the people who favour justice, freedom, equality and safety are requested to oppose breaching the laws and prevent such actions for the benefit of the country and people.

Human resources, essential for development of the State

“ELECTRIFICATION, smooth transportation, betterment of communications and development of human resources are fundamental for the improvement of a country,” said Chairman of the State Administration Council in the meeting with Union-level officials, Union ministers, the Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, chairmen of Region and State Administration Councils and Self-Administered Zones and Division Administration Bodies on 6 April.

As a main investment for the State, school-age children and youths must be nurtured to become qualified human resources. As such, efforts are being made to reopen schools as quickly as possible. If the schools cannot be opened, the State and the youths will face a severe loss.

Regarding grade changing of learning in education history, over 1.5 million school-age children started learning in 1997, but 34.71 per cent of them only could attend middle school. Sixty-five per cent of them ended learning in the 5th standard. Later, over 17 per cent of students reached matriculation. According to statistics collected in 2019, a total of 3.7 million people did not have experience in attending the school. Student number of high school education completion declined because students are weak in learning in the ninth standard.

The State Administration Council Chairman called for reviewing the continuous assessment passing system for grade changing of learning, which was one of the education reforms. Currently, as schools have been closed over one academic year, the government is striving for shaping the future of students amidst difficulties. Moreover, it is necessary to prioritize nurturing the ethnic children without experience of learning to become educated.

In Myanmar, everybody can see the weakness of youths not only in education but in morale. They have inadequate knowledge of the language, religion and cultural traditions. Acts of paying tributes to the Lord Buddha, Dhamma, Sangha, parents and teachers are fading out.

All need to help straight nature and life of the youths in time. Horizons of children and youths should be broadened for education, culture and morale. Hence, all the people should join hands with the State to improve human resources for shaping a brighter future of the State and posterity.

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Thoughts on the day on which I received the Covishield vaccination shot

By Maung Hlaing

THE Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM) of 19 March 2021 conveyed a news item under the title of “COVID May Become ‘Seasonal’: UN.” According to the news, COVID-19 appears likely to develop into a seasonal disease, the United Nations (UN) said Thursday (18-3-2021), cautioning though against relaxing pandemic-related measures simply based on meteorological factors. The AFP report also expressed that more than a year after the novel coronavirus first surfaced in China, a number of mysteries still surround the spread of the disease that has killed nearly 2.7 million people worldwide.

The piece of news that rocked me was that the 16-member team set up by the UN World Meteorological Organization pointed out that respiratory viral infections are often seasonal, “in particular the autumn-winter peak for influenza and cold-causing coronaviruses in temperate climates”. This has fuelled expectations that, if it persists for many years, COVID-19 will prove to be a strongly seasonal disease,” it said in a statement.

I was flabbergasted. What a timely warning! I think so. Coincidentally, I read the news after I had received the Covishield vaccination shot.

It was 18 March 2021. One of my friends informed me that the first dose of the COVID19 vaccine was given to those of the age group of 65 and above in my township. I belong to this age group. No sooner

had I heard the news than I was overjoyed. It was because we, the elderly couple, were eagerly looking forward to such a day on which I would see a mass vaccination campaign in my town. As for my daughter, she had already received her second dose of COVID-19 vaccination on the same day in Nay Pyi Taw, where she was working. Being a father, I do not need to be worried about her future any more regarding the COVID-19 disease.

The information made me reach the hospital situated at the (what we call 7-8) junction of Dagon Myothit (North). To be frank, I have never been to the hospital since the time when I moved to this town. As soon as I entered the hospital, I was warmly welcomed by health workers in an affable tone. They helped me fill up the forms for the data they needed.

Before giving the Covishield vaccination to me, a nurse took my body temperature and blood pressure. I was told that only if the measurements were found to be normal, the vaccination would be given.

After that, a lady doctor of young age asked me some questions— “Have you got a cardiac disease?” “Have you got coronary thrombosis?” “Do you have high blood pressure and diabetes?”— and so on. As she was wearing a face mask, I could not see her face very well. However, her sweet voice made me fearless to receive the vaccination shot. So, I could make a guess that her sweet voice and

kind-hearted manner would make not only me but also those who came to receive their shots have peace of mind. After answering the questions, I received my vaccination shot.

Although I had already had the jab, they did not let me go immediately. They detained me. Then, they gave me an icebox to apply on the spot of my arm, where I got injected and told me to stay about half an hour. While I was whiling away time with other people who also received the vaccination jabs like me, another young lady doctor emerged and said, “May I have your attention, please. Those who have received the vaccination will have to receive a second dose of the vaccine after 28 days. Some side effects of the vaccine include pain, redness or swelling, fever and headache. But, please don’t be afraid of them. These symptoms will normally disappear within 24 hours after the vaccination.”

She went on to say, “If the symptoms increase rather than decreasing, or other severe symptoms appear, you are advised to receive medical treatments at the nearby hospitals and clinics. When you go back and ache all over, please take paracetamol and have a sound sleep. You’ll feel better when you get up in the morning.”

Then, she reminded us that the first vaccination would be in vain if we failed to receive the second dose, and we must come to the hospital on the due date given without fail.

When I came back from the hospital, I informed the neighbours of ours. To my surprise, although some were interested in the vaccination, others were reluctant. What I noticed was that those who were reluctant to receive the first dose were the users of social media. I found that they completely relied on the fake news and rumours coming from the social media platform.

According to the news that appeared in the GNLM of 14 March 2021, the government keeps launching COVID-19 vaccination programmes and the Union-level members and staff officers of ministries, including the acting President, received Covishield vaccination for the first time on 5 February and the second time on 5 March. The vaccination programmes are being conducted as planned for venerable Sayadaws and the elderly over the

age of 65.

What is going on in the world today regarding the COVID-19? Let’s see it. Since first emerging in China at the end of 2019, the coronavirus has killed nearly 2.7 million people and forced unprecedented curbs on movement that eviscerated economies. The World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 a pandemic on 11 March last year as infection numbers were beginning to explode across Asia and Europe.

Global aviation came to a standstill, and the government imposed deeply unpopular restrictions, forcing billions of fearful people into some form of lockdown. I was deeply hurt when Corinne Krencker, the head of a hospital network in eastern France, told AFP that they were on a war footing as patient and death numbers began to surge. (AFP/GNLM, 12-3-2021)

Now, Italy is facing “a new wave” of coronavirus infections as its government is prepared to tighten restrictions across most of the country. A new COVID-19 variant has also been reported in Britain. On the other hand, another variant was found in South Africa. We come to know that these new variants can spread fast.

The United States is the worst-affected country, followed by Brazil, Mexico, India and Britain. The UN has already warned that modelling studies anticipate that transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 disease, “may become seasonal overtime.”

So, what shall we do?

During these days, the infection rate in Myanmar has gone down to a certain extent. However, this is still not adequate enough. The most important thing to do is to protect ourselves. By protecting ourselves, we also protect the people in our environment. As long as we do not get the disease, it cannot be passed on to anyone through us.

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First COVID Vaccine Shot Alone Not Protective



Nurses administer the Coronavac vaccine to frontline health workers at Mae Sariang Hospital in Mae Hong Son province on 2 April, 2021. PHOTO: AFP

Researchers looked at the combined effect of Coronavac, which accounts for about 93 per cent of doses being administered, and the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. It estimated Coronavac’s efficacy in real-life conditions at 54 per cent - in line with trial results in Brazil.

University of Chile rector Ennio Vivaldi told a virtual press conference.

But it was also clear that the first dose on its own “does not have any relevant effect after four weeks” which means the recipient was for all intents and purposes just as vulnerable to infection as a non-vaccinated person.

The study estimated that for people between 75 and 79 - targeted in the initial vaccination campaign - there would have been 80 per cent more infections without the vaccine.

For those aged 70 to 74, the percentage dropped to 60 per cent.

SOURCE: AFP

Newspapers to be published alternately for Myanmar New Year holidays

THE News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information announced that daily newspapers would be published in turns during the Myanmar New Year holidays.

While the Mirror and the Global New Light of Myanmar newspapers will be published on 13, 14 and 15 April, and the Myanma Alinn will temporarily cease publishing operations during this period.

While the Myanma Alinn newspapers will resume operations on 16, 17, 18 and 19 April, the Mirror and the Global New Light of Myanmar will temporarily cease operations on those days.

Similarly, the Shwe Pyi Rakhine Ponyeik sector from Sub-Printing House (Sittway) will temporarily cease printing on 14 April, the extra pages in Shan ethnic language from the Sub-Printing House (Taunggyi) will temporarily cease printing operations on 15 April, the extra pages in ethnic languages from the Sub-Printing House (Mawlamyine) will temporarily cease printing operations on 18 April. They will resume normal production after the Myanmar New Year holidays.

Advertisements will be received at the newspaper offices, which will remain open during these holidays. All newspapers will resume normal production starting 20 April. — News and Periodicals Enterprise

သတင်းစာပတ်ပြည့်သူများအနေဖြင့် မြန်မာ့အလင်း၊ ကြေးမုံ၊ The Global New Light of Myanmar ရောင်းခွဲသတင်းစာများ ယူယူပတ်ရှုလိုခြင်းနှင့် သတင်းစာများရောက်ရှိမှု မရှိခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် အောက်အခန်းများဖြစ်ပေါ်ပါက အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ဖုန်းနံပါတ်များသို့ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်-

➢ သတင်းနှင့်စာပေဇာတ်လမ်းဆိုင်(ရုံးချုပ်)၊ ချေးပြည်တော်၊ ဖုန်း-၀၆၇-၃၄၁၂၁၁၊ ၀၆-၄၃၀၁၉၁၆၂	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(ခရီးဆွေ)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၄၄-၂၀၂၄၀၉၁၊ ၀၄၄-၂၀၂၄၀၆၆
➢ ချေးပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက်(ဓမ္မဗျာဓိရုံကြီး)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၆၇-၃၆၁၀၇၇၊ ၀၆-၄၂၀၇၀၆၆၇	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(တောင်ကြီး)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၈၁-၂၁၂၁၁၆၄
➢ မြန်မာ့အလင်းသတင်းစာတိုက်(ရန်ကုန်)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၁၁-၉၅၄၄၄၇၇၊ ၀၉-၄၄၈၀၅၂၁၄	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(မကွေး)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၆၄-၂၀၂၄၇၂၂
➢ ကြေးမုံသတင်းစာတိုက်(ရန်ကုန်)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၁၁-၈၂၉၂၉၁၀၊ ၀၉-၄၄၈၀၅၅၅၅၀	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(ကျွန်းဘေး)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၈၄-၂၀၂၄၅၄၂
➢ The Global New Light of Myanmar (ရန်ကုန်)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၁၁-၈၆၀၄၄၇၂၊ ၀၉-၉၈၃၉၄၅၉၁	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(ကလေး)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၇၃-၂၀၂၄၃၃၃
➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(မန္တလေး)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၂၂-၄၀၁၂၇၂၉၊ ၀၂-၄၀၁၂၇၅၀	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(မြစ်ကြီးနား)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၇၄-၂၅၂၄၆၂၂
➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(မုံရွာ)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၇၁-၂၀၂၆၅၃၇၊ ၀၇၁-၂၀၂၆၅၃၃	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(လားရှိုး)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၈၂-၂၀၄၀၆၆၇
➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(မော်လမြိုင်)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၅၇-၂၀၂၇၅၂၅၊ ၀၅၇-၂၀၂၇၅၂၆	➢ ကိုယ်ပွားသတင်းစာတိုက်(ညောင်)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၅၉-၂၀၄၂၀၈၃

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